

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 169411  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:ACDA/MA/WT:PSCORDEN

APPROVED BY:ACDA/MA:AFNEIDLE

S/S-O:TMARTIN

-----007572 210319Z /61

R 202011Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1939

AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T STATE 169411

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 5872 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 15 JULY.

QUOTE: S E C R E T GENEVA 5872

EXDIS

USCTB

EO 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PARM, US, UR, UK

1. AT THIS POINT IN OUR DISCUSSION IT IS CLEAR THAT A  
BASIC DIFFERENCE EXISTS ON THE ROLE OF PNES UNDER A  
CTB. IT IS THE POSITION OF THE US THAT A COMPREHENSIVE  
TEST BAN MUST BAN ALL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, WHETHER FOR  
WEAPON PURPOSES OR FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. TH U.S.  
HAS HAD MANY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WITH THE CONDUCT OF  
NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR BOTH THESE PURPOSES. THE U.S.  
HAS HAD MANY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WITH THE CONDUCT OF  
NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR BOTH THESE PURPOSES. OVER THE  
COURSE OF THESE YEARS WE HAVE CAREFULLY STUDIED THE  
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PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH A POSSIBLE ACCOMMODATION OF  
PNES UNDER A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN. ALL OF OUR  
STUDIES HAVE LED US TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THERE ARE NO  
METHODS OR PROCEDURES WHICH COULD ASSURES PARTIES TO A  
CTB THAT THE CARRYING OUT OF PNES WOULD NOT LEAD TO  
MILITARY BENEFITS TO THE PARTY CARRYING OUT THE  
EXPLOSIONS. THUS APNE ACCOMMODATION WOULD BE CONTRARY

TO THE VERY PURPOSE OF A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN.

2. THE TREATY ON UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES DOES NOT IN ANY WAY SERVE TO CONTRADICT THIS CONCLUSION SINCE IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WEAPONS TEST THRESHOLD OF 150 KILOTONS AND SETS THE IDENTICAL LIMIT FOR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. THE PROTOCOL TO THIS TREATY PROVIDES IN THE FIRST PLACE FOR PROCEDURES TO ESTABLISH THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE PNE PROJECT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE STATED PEACEFUL PURPOSE; THESE PROCEDURES DO NOT ASSURE THAT NO MILITARY BENEFITS ARE GAINED FROM THE EXPLOSION. SECONDLY, THE VERIFICATION PROCEDURES ARE ALSO DESIGNED TO DETERMINE THAT NO INDIVIDUAL EXPLOSION WITH A YIELD EXCEEDING 150 KILOTONS IS CARRIED OUT. THUS THESE VERIFICATION PROVISIONS DO NO MORE THAN ASSURE THAT ANY MILITARY BENEFIT OBTAINED WILL NOT BE OVER AND BEYOND THAT WHICH CAN BE OBTAINED AT WWAPON TEST SITES AND THEY CERTAINLY PROVIDE NO TECHNICAL BASIS FOR DETERMINING THAT A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES DOES NOT YIELD MILITARY BENEFITS. THERE ARE NO VERIFICATION ELEMENTS CONTAINED IN THIS TREATY WHICH WOULD ENSURE UNDER A CTB THAT MILITARY BENEFITS WERE NOT BEING OBTAINED IN THE COURSE OF CARRYING OUT NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, NO MEANS EXIST THAT COULD PROVIDE SUCH

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ASSURANCE.

TO REITERATE, IT IS THE FIRM POSITION OF THE U.S. THAT A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN MUST BAN ALL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS. VANDEN HEUVEL  
UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009